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NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending September 6, 1992

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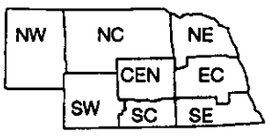

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged near normal across the entire State. Scattered precipitation occurred throughout the week with amounts varying from around a tenth of an inch in the west up to almost two inches in the east.

GENERAL

Row crop development received a limited boost last week from Mother Nature through warmer temperatures, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Crop producers were busy with harvest preparations, fall wheat seeding activities, and hay harvesting. In anticipation of fall harvest, storage facilities were being prepared and drying and harvesting equipment were being made ready. Crops continued to need sunny days with above normal temperatures to reach proper development before first frost.

CROPS

Corn condition was rated at 1% very poor, 8% poor, 18% fair, 49% good, and 24% excellent. The crop moved toward maturity at an increasing rate last week but remained about ten days behind normal for acreage reaching the dent stage. Statewide, the crop was two weeks behind normal in reaching maturity.

Soybean condition was rated at 2% poor, 7% fair, 65% good, and 26% excellent. Fields turning color remained about ten days behind normal. Fields with plants dropping leaves were about twelve days behind normal.

CROPS (Cont.)

Sorghum condition was rated at 3% poor, 14% fair, 63% good, and 20% excellent. Fields turning color also progressed at an increasing rate last week, but Statewide the crop was about two and a half weeks behind normal in reaching maturity. Concerns remained about receiving needed warmer, drier weather before first frost.

Dry bean harvest has begun on western acres. The crop was a week to ten days behind normal and as with other row crops, producers were hoping for a normal to late frost. Cool, wet weather-related diseases have caused concerns for some producers.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 2% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, and 13% excellent. Third cutting activities progressed to 81% complete, ahead of normal. Fourth cutting activities were underway in most areas of the State.

Winter wheat seeding for 1993 harvest was 3% completed compared to 6% last year and 9% average. Planting was expected to pick up by mid-September.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 100% of normal and compares with 62% of normal last year at this time. Grazing potential remained excellent with very good cattle weight gains being reported. The grass has stayed green and made good growth for a longer than normal length of time this summer.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 1992	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dented	32	29	26	44	82	47	81	65	55	29	94	85
% corn mature	0	0	0	1	3	4	3	1	2	0	37	26
% sorghum turning color	0	15	27	51	38	25	18	34	32	16	82	74
% soybeans turning color	0	6	9	25	18	17	15	9	14	3	58	48
% alfalfa third cutting	48	69	82	93	87	99	91	81	81	60	76	77
% alfalfa fourth cutting	0	5	3	12	6	6	3	4	5	0	na	na
% wheat sown	6	6	11	1	3	1	0	1	3	0	6	9
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1992												
Days suitable	4.9	6.0	4.3	6.1	5.5	3.9	5.5	4.7	5.1	3.6	6.8	
Topsoil moisture - Short	7	0	0	0	5	0	9	0	3	6	96	
(Percent) - Adequate	93	83	82	100	84	62	91	93	87	76	3	
- Surplus	0	17	18	0	11	38	0	7	10	18	1	
Subsoil moisture - Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	1	1	87	
(Percent) - Adequate	100	92	88	100	84	100	91	100	93	94	12	
- Surplus	0	8	12	0	16	0	0	0	6	5	1	

na - not available

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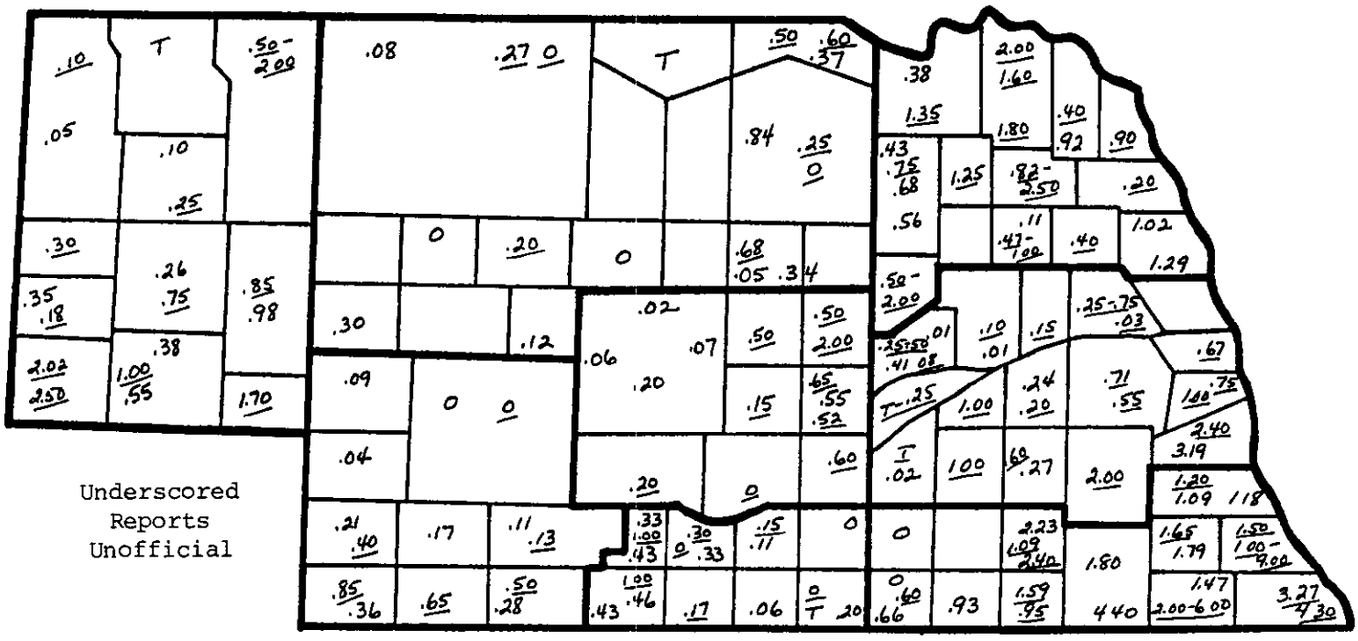
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1992



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 4, 1992

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.33	.19	.67	.18	.59	.16	.24	1.41
Total since April 1	12.50	16.03	18.74	16.32	20.08	14.52	15.10	22.17
Normal since April 1	12.07	14.84	17.14	16.06	18.40	13.52	16.28	19.23

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1992

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	91	44	67	---	.07	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	87	46	66	0	.34	2097	2211	2407
	Sidney	---	---	---	---	---	1996	2099	2355
NC	Valentine	90	46	69	+3	.59	1939	2071	2444
NE	Norfolk	85	48	68	0	1.26	---	---	---
	Sioux City	84	46	67	-2	1.60	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2021	2133	2713
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1899	1996	2648
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	2138	2257	2774
CEN	Grand Island	87	50	69	0	.32	2206	2349	2777
	Ord	87	47	68	---	.48	2103	2220	2736
EC	Lincoln	86	48	71	+1	1.73	2413	2571	2884
	Omaha	86	54	70	+1	1.99	2284	2431	2771
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	2225	2360	2829
	York	---	---	---	---	---	2268	2407	2909
SW	Imperial	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	North Platte	87	46	67	0	.17	**2026	**2143	**2601
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2225	2350	2827
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2350	2491	2914
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2239	2366	2873

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. *Automated weather station. **West Central Research & Extension Center.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.